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(54) Cipher key and reproduction methods, apparatuses, systems and optical disc

(57) Plural program information and a BCA (Burst Cutting Area) number of the optical disc 100 is previously recorded in the optical disc 100. A drive ID is stored in the nonvolatile memory 104a of the reproduction apparatus 104. A user of the reproduction apparatus 104 notifies the BCA number, the drive ID, and a number of preferred program information to the software house (software supplier) 110 on the condition that the user pays for the reproduction of the preferred

program information recorded in the optical disc 100. The software house 110 notifies a cipher key to the reproduction apparatus 104 or the user. A title key is calculated in the reproduction apparatus 104 in accordance with the BCA number, the drive ID, and the cipher key. The preferred information recorded in the optical disc 100 is permitted to be reproduced by using the title key.

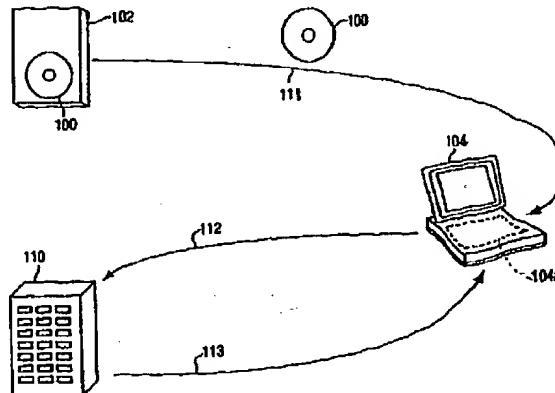


Fig. 3

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 10 0149

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE	7 October 1999	Ogor, M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 10 0149

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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